

The Honorable Lauren King

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

STATE OF WASHINGTON, et al.,

NO. 2:25-cv-00244-LK

Plaintiffs,

## DECLARATION OF B.P.

V.

DONALD J. TRUMP, in his official capacity  
as President of the United States, et al.,

## Defendants.

1 I, B.P., declare as follows:

2 1. I am over the age of 18, competent to testify as to the matters herein, and make  
3 this declaration based on my personal knowledge.

4 2. I live in Seattle, Washington with my wife and we have a son and a daughter. Our  
5 son is a freshman in high school and our daughter is in her sophomore year of college at a liberal  
6 arts school in California.

7 3. My career has been in the non-profit sector, most recently for a non-profit that  
8 develops school curriculum for social emotional learning. My wife works in the marketing and  
9 communication field. We met while we were both working at a Quaker boarding school in Iowa.  
10 We moved to Washington together in 1997 and have lived here ever since.

11 4. Our daughter is twenty years old and is transgender. She is also neurodiverse. We  
12 believe she is on the autism spectrum and has struggled with OCD, ADHD, and anxiety for most  
13 of her life.

14 5. I have chosen to refer to her as "S.P." because I am fearful that the Federal  
15 Government could retaliate against me or my child. Individuals emboldened by anti-trans  
16 rhetoric and recent anti-trans Executive Orders of the Federal Government could target my  
17 family for speaking out. This is also why I have chosen to submit this declaration using a  
18 pseudonym.

19 6. S.P. is a bright, creative young adult who has long loved the theatre. Growing up  
20 she participated in local professional and community theater groups and was part of her high  
21 school theater program. She is currently studying theatre in college, where she is directing a  
22 student play and on the honor roll.

23 7. When S.P. was a sophomore in high school she told us she was a girl. Although  
24 we had friends who are transgender, and friends with transgender and gender expansive kids, we  
25 did not see this coming. It was a learning experience for us. Frankly, we were surprised that we  
26 did not see it coming. Although S.P. was not what you would describe as a stereotypical boy

1 growing up, she did not wear dresses or otherwise express herself in an overtly feminine way.  
 2 We had a pre-conceived notion that a transgender person would “know” at a very young age and  
 3 there would be signs early on.

4 8. It was important to us as a family to understand what S.P. was going through and  
 5 to support her along the way. We asked around and found a gender-affirming therapist for my  
 6 wife and me and one for S.P. It was important to us that we got support to work through our  
 7 reaction to our daughter’s transition so we could show up for her in the way she needed us to.  
 8 We also took the time to educate ourselves and do our own research. We spoke a lot with friends  
 9 who had trans kids. We joined a Facebook group of parents with trans kids. We read relevant  
 10 books and online articles. We joined local support groups to better understand the process and  
 11 learn. We wanted to do right by our daughter.

12 9. In addition to our current friends who are trans or parenting trans kids, I have  
 13 known four trans peers who all transitioned in their fifties—one through work, one from our  
 14 religious community, one from high school and one from college. In each case, I learned of the  
 15 pain that each of them lived with from hiding their true self for decades, and I saw their positive  
 16 transformation from living outwardly as they authentically experienced themselves. I am  
 17 grateful that my daughter lived a relatively short period of time while feeling she had to hide  
 18 who she is, and that she lives in a time where she felt able to be open and is living her authentic  
 19 self openly.

20 10. S.P.’s social transition went smoothly. When she came out to us, it was during  
 21 COVID, so school was still remote. When S.P. returned to school her junior year, she presented  
 22 as a girl. Thankfully, her school, her teachers, and her classmates accepted S.P. with open arms.  
 23 And we had no issues with the school district; they fixed S.P.’s name and pronouns immediately;  
 24 they were exemplary. Her social circle was primarily with the other theatre kids, which included  
 25 other trans and gender expansive kids, so that may have helped, too.

1       11. S.P.'s brother was completely unfazed by his sister's transition. In our family, we  
 2 often talk about people's rights. The faith communities we have been a part of over the years  
 3 have been very progressive, and as I mentioned, S.P.'s brother already knew trans kids because  
 4 of our circle of friends.

5       12. After S.P. came out to us and started her social transitioning, she blossomed. She  
 6 was a much happier and more confident kid. It became noticeably easier for her to connect  
 7 authentically with other people. She became much more comfortable in talking about herself,  
 8 answering questions about herself, and participating in her life more fully. It was as if the barriers  
 9 she previously had came down. Once S.P. started experimenting with how she wanted to present  
 10 herself, she became so much more outgoing and comfortable.

11       13. It was validating to hear from our extended family members about how much  
 12 they noticed the difference and how much they were enjoying connecting with S.P. Because S.P.  
 13 had struggled with OCD and ADHD most of her life, in the beginning we wondered if "being a  
 14 girl" was a compulsive thought associated with her OCD. Seeing how much more confident and  
 15 outgoing S.P became after socially transitioning and being supported with gender-affirming  
 16 therapy, any doubts we may have had about S.P.'s transition went away.

17       14. S.P. started asking about hormone therapy pretty soon after coming out. Her mom  
 18 and I had concerns; we did not want to rush into anything that would alter our daughter's body,  
 19 but we did a lot of research and started looking for a medical provider who provided gender-  
 20 affirming care. We found a great doctor at a medical system in Seattle. The doctor was very  
 21 helpful and answered all of S.P.'s questions. After the assessment it was clear that hormone  
 22 therapy was the right treatment for our daughter. Because of her age, it was too late for puberty  
 23 blockers. S.P. wanted to grow breasts. She didn't want facial hair. She was ready to present as a  
 24 girl. She pictured her future as a woman.

25       15. Even so, the decision to undergo hormone replacement therapy was cautious,  
 26 deliberate, and informed. S.P. had known about Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT) from

1 friends who were further along in their transition. S.P. had already done some online research.  
 2 In addition to speaking extensively with her gender-affirming care doctor, S.P. talked to her  
 3 therapist about the realities of hormone replacement therapy and what the changes might mean  
 4 for her emotionally for her mental health. From the time that S.P. raised the option of hormone  
 5 replacement therapy to when she took her first dose of estrogen was about six months. She has  
 6 remained on this program ever since.

7       16. Even though, as her parents, we had concerns about our child doing anything to  
 8 permanently alter her body, we also understood that S.P. was close to the age where she could  
 9 decide for herself to go on estrogen. We did not want to be a barrier to her care. S.P.'s doctor  
 10 helped us understand all the pros and cons and effects of HRT so we could help her make an  
 11 informed decision. But also, our relationship with our daughter was more important than making  
 12 her wait for our process of understanding. And we had already seen how her personality had  
 13 blossomed since coming out. We knew it was important to S.P. to start hormone therapy so she  
 14 could have a better relationship with her body. She was not comfortable just presenting as a girl  
 15 by the way she dressed or wore her hair. She wanted to feel whole, and we wanted to support  
 16 her.

17       17. S.P. is scheduled for bottom surgery in May of this year. We understand that  
 18 because she is twenty years old, S.P.'s care should not be impacted by the current Executive  
 19 Order limiting access to gender-affirming care for young people, but we know that some  
 20 hospitals, including in Seattle, have canceled gender-affirming care surgeries. And we fear that  
 21 this Executive Order is just the beginning, and could lead to banning access to this care for adults  
 22 as well. We are worried about whether S.P.'s surgery will go forward. S.P. is also very worried  
 23 about it.

24       18. S.P. had determined over a year ago that she wanted gender-affirming care  
 25 surgery, but the doctors dissuaded her from moving too quickly. They told her that she would  
 26 have to wait at least a year and a half. There were things she needed to do to prepare her body

1 for that, including hair removal, which takes about a year, and pelvic physical therapy exercises.  
 2 As a parent, I was reassured that they were slowing her down. The doctors explained the reality  
 3 of the surgery and that it was important to follow the correct process to ensure that the surgery  
 4 will be successful for S.P. I was grateful for the cautious approach. The narrative that these  
 5 decisions are made quickly without careful consideration or consultation with mental and  
 6 physical health providers is false. It's literally impossible for these kinds of care to happen  
 7 quickly or without a careful lead-up process.

8       19. S.P. is very worried that her surgery will be cancelled, and she will not be able to  
 9 get the care that she needs and has prepared for over the last year. S.P. was not politically active,  
 10 but the president's anti-trans language and policies have lit a fire under her. When S.P. learned  
 11 on her own about the President's Executive Order and that a local hospital had canceled gender-  
 12 affirming care surgeries, she wrote to the hospital that will provide her surgery and to the  
 13 Washington State Attorney General's Office. And, S.P. has been planning with her roommate,  
 14 who is also trans, to protest a provider near her school in Los Angeles after her roommate lost  
 15 access to gender-affirming care.

16       20. My wife and I love and support our children. It has always been important to us  
 17 that our children live in a supportive environment. As we face these difficult times, we told S.P.  
 18 that we are committed to helping make sure that she receives the care she needs, when she needs  
 19 it.

20       21. To that end, we have been preparing for the possibility that S.P. could lose access  
 21 to the gender-affirming care she needs in Washington. We will first look to other states. We are  
 22 considering helping S.P. leave the country to get care, but we have significant concerns about  
 23 how that would work with follow-up care or complications. S.P. has spoken with her doctor  
 24 about stockpiling estrogen in case it is banned for gender-affirming care purposes.

25       22. With the gender-affirming care she has received to date, along with her supportive  
 26 family and social network, S.P. is doing well and she is effectively passing as female in public.

1 I am very concerned that the restrictions in the Executive Order that limits access to gender-  
 2 affirming care will impact my daughter's ability to get and maintain her care. I am deeply  
 3 concerned that if she loses access to her care, she will go backwards and become more closed  
 4 off and anxious again. I want her to have the basic freedom to live as who she is, a freedom most  
 5 other people have. I worry for her safety in this increasingly charged political environment.  
 6 Transgender people are targets.

7 23. Denying something as basic as the medical care a person needs is a betrayal of  
 8 the values this country was founded on. It is cruel and it is dangerous. The suicide rates for  
 9 transgender young people are already way too high. Transgender and gender expansive people  
 10 are citizens of this country, too, and they should have the same rights as everyone else. They are  
 11 equal citizens, entitled to enjoy the same rights and freedom that we all enjoy: to participate fully  
 12 in life as our authentic selves.

13 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington and the  
 14 United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct.

15 DATED this 17th day of February 2025.

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 18 B.P.  
 19 Parent of S.P.

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